Remarks/Arguments

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected. Claims 8, 9 and 10 are canceled. Claims 1-6 and 11 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,373,426 by O'Sullivan. Applicant respectfully traverses. However, Applicant has canceled claims 8 and 9, rendering the rejection moot.

Because claims 8 and 9 are no longer pending in the application, Applicant requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

Rewriting claim 9 to include the limitations of claim 10 would be duplicative to claim 11. Thus, claim 10 is cancelled as it is dependent on cancelled claim 9.

Conclusion

The claims have been shown to be allowable over the prior art. Applicant believes that this paper is responsive to each and every ground of rejection cited by the Examiner in the Action dated November 3, 2004, and respectfully requests favorable action in this application. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 04-0932 (Reference Number 13747/62043).

SERIAL NO.: 10/622,248 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 13747/62043

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 3, 2005

Paul C. Remus, Reg. No. 37,221

DEVINE, MILLIMET & BRANCH, P.A. 111 Amherst Street Manchester, NH 03105

Telephone: (603) 669-1000 Facsimile: (603) 669-8547